

**Draft Summary of the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group Meeting  
Oroville Facilities Relicensing (FERC Project No. 2100)  
June 23, 2003**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) hosted a meeting for the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group (LUWG) on June 23, 2003 in Oroville.

A summary of the discussion, decisions made, and action items is provided below. This summary is not intended to be a transcript, analysis of the meeting, or to indicate agreement or disagreement with any of the items summarized, except where expressly stated. The intent is to present a summary for interested parties who could not attend the meeting. The following are attachments to this summary:

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|--------------|--|
| Attachment 1 | Meeting Agenda   |
| Attachment 2 | Meeting Attendees  |
| Attachment 3 | Flip Chart Notes   |
| Attachment 4 | Draft Final Report for SP-L3, Comprehensive Plans Consistency Evaluation |

### **Introduction**

Attendees were welcomed to the LUWG meeting. Attendees introduced themselves and their affiliations. The participants reviewed the desired outcomes of the meeting. The meeting agenda and list of meeting attendees are appended to this summary as Attachments 1 and 2, respectively. Meeting flip chart notes are included as Attachment 3.

### **Action Items – May 19, 2003 Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group Meeting**

A summary of the May 19, 2003 LUWG meeting is posted on the relicensing web site. The Facilitator reviewed the status of action items from that meeting as follows:

- Action Item #LU60:** Answer questions sent by DPR staff pertaining to the grazing lease. Discuss grazing issues at the July LUWG meeting.
- Status: This action item has two parts to be addressed over two LUWG meetings. The future status of the single grazing lease in the project area has been an ongoing discussion topic between DWR and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). DPR previously sent a list of questions/concerns to Jim Martin with DWR regarding the lease; no formal response has been made by DWR to date. The Facilitator noted these concerns on the flip chart notes (see Attachment 3). DPR has also provided DWR and shared with the LUWG their formal policy on grazing. Two key questions are whether grazing is an appropriate long-term use in the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area (LOSRA) and whether DWR or DPR is the appropriate manager of the lease. DWR agreed to coordinate with DPR separately on this issue and report back to the LUWG at their July meeting. Andy Atkinson, representing California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) indicated that DFG is considering opening up the Oroville Wildlife Area (OWA) to grazing in the future.
- Action Item #LU61:** Provide copy of the draft Interim report for SP-L3 (Comprehensive Plan Consistency) to LUWG participants that did not receive a copy.
- Status: A copy of the Draft Final Report for SP-L3, Comprehensive Plans Consistency Evaluation was provided to LUWG participants who have not received a copy (Attachment 4).
- Action Item #LU62:** Assess the Thermalito Afterbay levee KOP and include in the text and appendix to SP-L4.

- Status: The consulting team plans to assess the Thermalito Afterbay levee for inclusion in SP-L4 but has not done so to date.
- Action Item #LU63:** Provide comments on the appendix to SP-L4.  
Status: The LUWG had no comments on the appendix to SP-L4.
- Action Item #LU64:** Coordinate with Curtis Creel on exceedence curves for water elevation levels at Lake Oroville.  
Status: The consulting team has initiated coordination and preliminary data has been obtained but the actual exceedence curves have not. This information will be included in the L4 report to provide temporal context to the KOPs.
- Action Item #LU65:** Distribute draft final report for SP-L5 (Fuel Load Management) at the next LUWG meeting.  
Status: The interim report for SP-L5 (Fuel Load Management) was not available at the June LUWG meeting, but will be provided two weeks in advance of the July 2003 LUWG meeting. The participants should be prepared to discuss the report and bring comments to the next meeting. Woody Elliot representing DPR reiterated DPR's concerns related to liability issues surrounding fuel load management. He suggested that contact between DWR and DPR legal representatives to discuss this issue is needed. DPR is in the process of developing a formal policy on fire hazard liability but it is not public yet. DPR would like to see liability issues addressed in the report for SP-L5, however this issue was not included in the original study plan and DWR does not want to amend the study plan. Mark Greenig reminded participants that this study is not required by FERC and was designed to provide information related to fuel load management, not to develop a fire management plan. Existing county/agency fuel load requirements will be included in the report. Jim Martin agreed to discuss the fuel load issue with Ward Tabor of the DWR legal department.
- Action Item #LU66:** Condense issues in Issue Tracker into resource actions and provide in matrix format.  
Status: The Facilitator and DWR staff completed this action item. Additional details are provided below in the context of the agenda item addressing PM&E development.

## Study Implementation Update

The Consultant Team provided an update on all five Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics study plans to the participants. Maps for the various studies were posted on the meeting walls and available for participant review at the meeting.

### ***SP-L1 (Land Use)***

Revisions have been made to the land use mapping based on input from the LUWG. The recreation land use category was revised to represent one single use rather than separate recreation designations to identify developed and passive uses. Developed recreation sites were depicted on the map to show where more concentrated uses are occurring. It is estimated that the land use mapping is approximately 90 percent complete. A preliminary land ownership map has been prepared and presented to the LUWG. The ownership mapping is based on a variety of secondary data sources and is, for the most part, general in detail appropriate for the FERC relicensing process. All of the proposed BLM land transfer lands are included on the ownership mapping. The next step for both the land use and ownership mapping is to coordinate with the appropriate agencies so that they can review the maps for accuracy.

### ***SP-L2 (Land Management)***

This study is closely related to efforts undertaken for SP-L1 (Land Use). Maps depicting Butte County zoning were presented to the LUWG. The next step for this study is to obtain planned land use information from other agencies that own/manage land in the project area. This information

will ultimately be distributed to the other work groups via the appropriate Resource Area Managers (RAMs). Coordination among the RAMs is an ongoing process.

### ***SP-L3 (Comprehensive Plan Consistency)***

Copies of the L3 interim report were provided to the LUWG. Ultimately, this study will include an evaluation of proposed PM&Es, which should be consistent with applicable comprehensive plans. The summaries of comprehensive plans that are included in the report have been reviewed and approved by appropriate agency representatives. New plans can be added to the report as appropriate.

### ***SP-L4 (Aesthetics)***

The consulting team is awaiting comments from the LUWG on the appendix to the L4 study report, which was provided to the participants at the previous LUWG meeting. No comments were provided at the June LUWG meeting.

### ***SP-L5 (Fuel Load Management)***

The interim report for L5 was not complete in time for the June LUWG meeting. The report will be distributed to the LUWG in advance of the July LUWG meeting. Information has been included in the report including text and fire history mapping and frequency of ignition. The fire history mapping includes cause of fire and represents roughly 100 years of data. Specific fires in the project area will be addressed in the report. The frequency of ignition mapping represents roughly 10 years of data on wild land not structural, fires. It does not show fire intensity or extent of damage. It may be possible to overlay the CDF fuel load hazard mapping with the frequency of ignition mapping to identify areas of concern.

## **PM&E Development**

Similar to other work groups, the LUWG decided to develop a PM&E matrix that begins with the issues located in the Issue Tracker developed at the start of the relicensing process. A draft matrix has been developed for the potential resource actions included in the land use, land management, and aesthetics issue tracker and including a few that have been discussed in recent LUWG meetings. The Facilitator will send out copies of the matrix to LUWG participants for review prior to the next LUWG meeting. The task for the participants is to review the matrix, confirm that the resource actions are characterized correctly, and begin filling out the matrix. The LUWG discussed the goals of the matrix, which are to list and track the resource actions, sort them by the interest addressed and provide a tool to assist the LUWG in evaluating the relative merits of each.

The LUWG reviewed the appropriateness of the “chart-toppers” in the matrix that will be used to evaluate proposed resource actions. The participants started with the “chart-toppers” developed for the Recreation and Socioeconomics Work Group and discussed revisions to more appropriately fit the LUWG needs.

The “P, M, or E” column was included although the participants acknowledged that information to populate this column is not currently known. The following columns were also considered appropriate for the Land Use matrix: “Local or Tourist Priority,” “Construction,” “O&M,” “Environmental Documentation,” “Potential X-Resource Impacts,” “Acquisition/Easement,” “Revenue Generating,” “Change Experience/Expectation,” “Partnering/Investment,” “Costs,” and “Comments.” The following columns were deleted by the LUWG: “Related to Existing Facilities” and “Conflict with Existing Private Economic Enterprise.” The “Flow Related” column was changed to “Change to Flow/Reservoir Elevation;” the “Enforcement” column was changed to “Law Enforcement Expense,” which is intended to represent level of expenses; and the “Potential User Conflict” column was changed to “Consistency with Existing Land Use.” The following columns were added to the matrix: “Impact to Existing Project Operations” and “Consistent with Existing

Land Use and Resource Management Plans.” Additional columns or “chart-toppers” may be identified once the resource actions are reviewed.

### **Next Meeting and Next Steps**

The next LUWG meeting will be:

Date: Monday, July 28, 2003

Time: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Location: Sacramento – Resources Building with phone in capabilities (videoconferencing will be arranged between Sacramento and Oroville Field Division)

### **Action Items**

The following list of action items identified by the Land Use, Land Management and Aesthetics Work Group includes a description of the action, the participant responsible for the action, and item status.

**Action Item #LU60:** Answer questions sent by DPR staff pertaining to the grazing lease. Report back to the Work Group at the July Work Group meeting (*follow-up action item*).

**Responsible:** DWR

**Due Date:** July 28, 2003

**Action Item #LU65:** Distribute the interim report for SP-L5 (Fuel Load Management) in advance of the July LUWG meeting (*follow-up action item*).

**Responsible:** DWR

**Due Date:** July 14, 2003

**Action Item #LU67:** Discuss the fuel load liability issue raised by DPR with Ward Tabor (DWR) and report back to the LUWG at the next LUWG meeting.

**Responsible:** Jim Martin (DWR)

**Due Date:** July 28, 2003

**Action Item #LU68:** Send hard copy and electronic copies of the draft Land Use PM&E matrix to Work Group participants.

**Responsible:** Facilitator/DWR

**Due Date:** July 28, 2003

**Action Item #LU69:** Review the PM&E matrix, confirm that the resource actions are characterized correctly, and begin filling out the matrix.

**Responsible:** LUWG Participants

**Due Date:** July 28, 2003